

Maryland Weekly Influenza Surveillance Activity Report

A summary of influenza surveillance indicators reported to DHMH for the week ending November 24, 2012

Prepared by the Office of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Outbreak Response
Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

SUMMARY

During the week ending November 24, 2012, influenza-like illness (ILI) intensity in Maryland was **MINIMAL** with **SPORADIC** geographic spread of influenza. Influenza activity indicators were below expected levels.

[Click here to visit our influenza surveillance web page](#)

ILI Intensity Levels

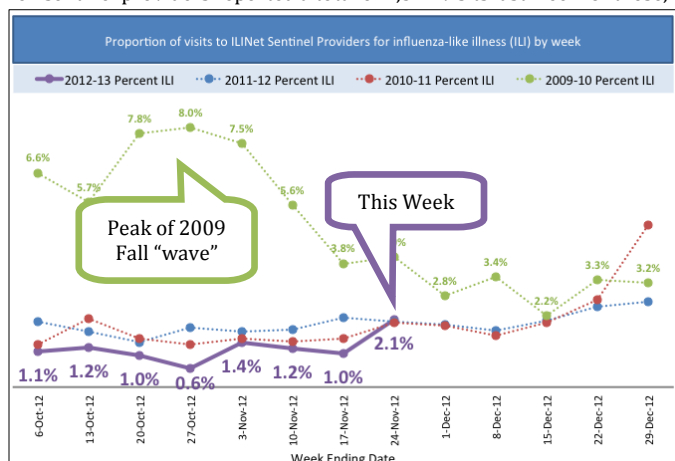
✓ Minimal
Low
Moderate
High

Influenza Geographic Spread

No Activity
✓ Sporadic
Local
Regional
Widespread

ILINet Sentinel Providers

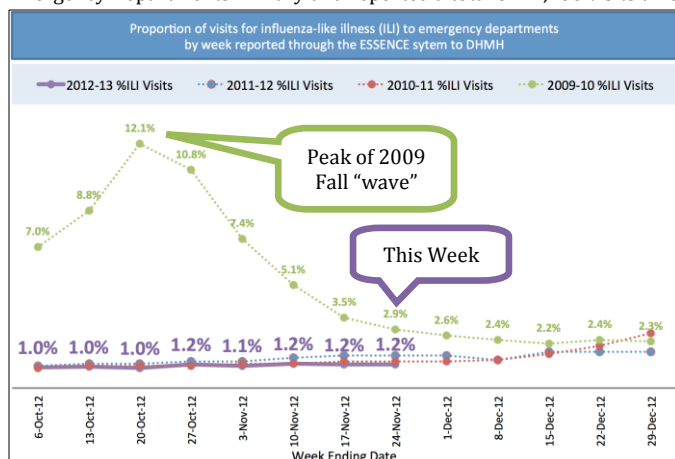
Ten sentinel providers reported a total of 2,541 visits last week. Of those, 53 (2.1%) were visits for ILI. This is **below** the Maryland baseline of **2.9%**.



ILI Visits To Sentinel Providers By Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	16 (30%)	20 (22%)	221 (29%)
Age 5-24	19 (36%)	42 (45%)	307 (40%)
Age 25-49	9 (17%)	26 (28%)	175 (23%)
Age 50-64	7 (13%)	2 (2%)	43 (6%)
Age ≥ 65	2 (4%)	3 (3%)	21 (3%)
Total ILI Visits	53 (100%)	93 (100%)	767 (100%)

Visits to Emergency Departments for ILI

Emergency Departments in Maryland reported a total of 44,466 visits through the [ESSENCE surveillance system](#). Of those visits, 528 (1.2%) were visits for ILI.



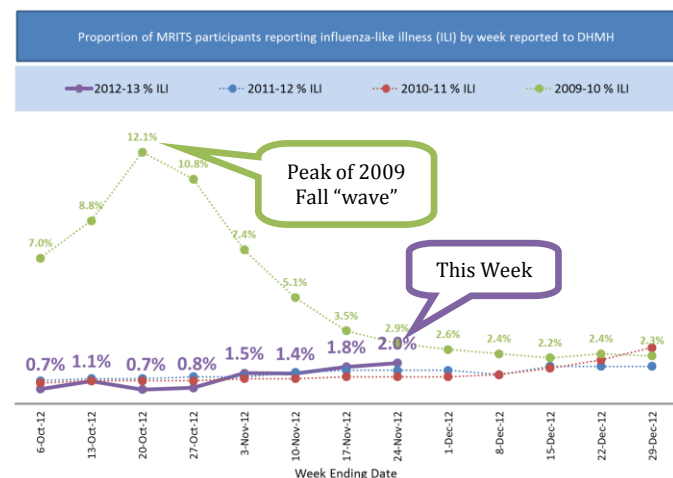
ILI Visits To Emergency Departments By Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	200 (38%)	162 (30%)	1,254 (32%)
Age 5-24	144 (27%)	153 (29%)	1,136 (29%)
Age 25-49	128 (24%)	146 (27%)	1,092 (28%)
Age 50-64	42 (8%)	51 (10%)	317 (8%)
Age ≥ 65	14 (3%)	24 (4%)	155 (4%)
Total ILI Visits	528 (100%)	536 (100%)	3,954 (100%)

Other states' influenza information:

Delaware <http://dhss.delaware.gov/dph/epi/influenzahome.html>
District of Columbia <http://doh.dc.gov/service/influenza>
Pennsylvania [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/influenza_\(flu\)/14161](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/influenza_(flu)/14161)
Virginia <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/Epidemiology/Surveillance/Influenza/>
West Virginia <http://dhhr.wv.gov/oeps/disease/flu/Pages/fluSurveillance.aspx>

Maryland Residents Influenza Tracking Survey (MRITS)

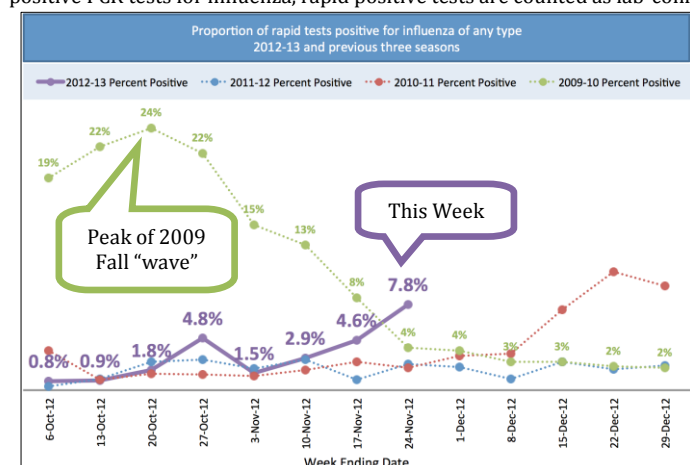
A total of 564 Maryland residents responded to the [weekly flu survey](#) this week. Of those, 11 (2.0%) reported having an influenza-like illness and missing a collective 19 days of regular daily activities.



Reports of ILI by Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	3 (27%)	1 (10%)	6 (13%)
Age 5-24	2 (18%)	3 (30%)	13 (28%)
Age 25-49	2 (18%)	2 (20%)	12 (26%)
Age 50-64	4 (36%)	3 (30%)	15 (32%)
Age ≥ 65	0 (0%)	1 (10%)	1 (2%)
Total	11 (100%)	10 (100%)	47 (100%)

Clinical Laboratory Influenza Testing

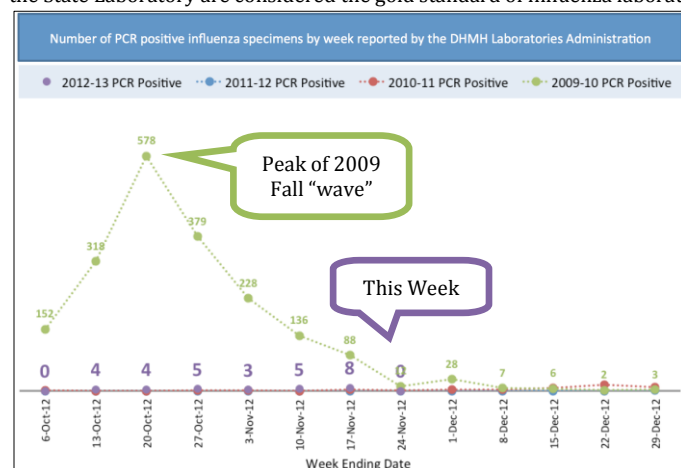
Twenty-six clinical laboratories reported 524 rapid influenza tests performed. Of those, 41 (7.8%) were positive. Thirty-two were positive for influenza type A, and nine were positive for type B. (Rapid influenza tests are not as accurate as PCR tests. Now that the State Laboratories Administration has reported positive PCR tests for influenza, rapid positive tests are counted as lab-confirmed cases for surveillance purposes.)



Positive Rapid Flu Tests by Type	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Type A	32 (78%)	15 (60%)	72 (60%)
Type B	9 (22%)	10 (40%)	49 (40%)
Total	41 (100%)	25 (100%)	121 (100%)

State Laboratories Administration Influenza Testing

The DHMH Laboratories Administration performed a total of 11 PCR tests for influenza. None of those was positive for influenza. (Influenza tests performed at the State Laboratory are considered the gold standard of influenza laboratory testing for influenza surveillance purposes.)

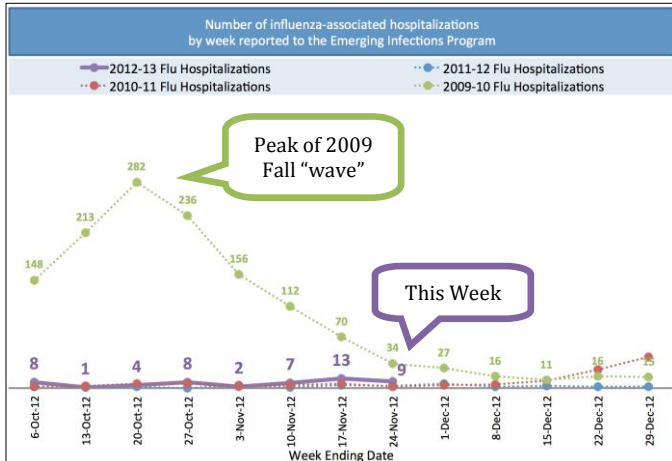


Positive PCR Tests by Type	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Type A (H1)	--	--	3 (10%)
Type A (H3N2)	--	8 (100%)	22 (76%)
Type A (H3N2v)	--	--	--
Type B	--	--	4 (14%)
Total	--	8 (100%)	29 (100%)

Go to <http://dhmh.maryland.gov/fluimd/SitePages/getvaccinated.aspx> and click on your county/city of residence. You will be redirected to your local health department website for local information on where to get your flu vaccine.

Influenza-associated Hospitalizations

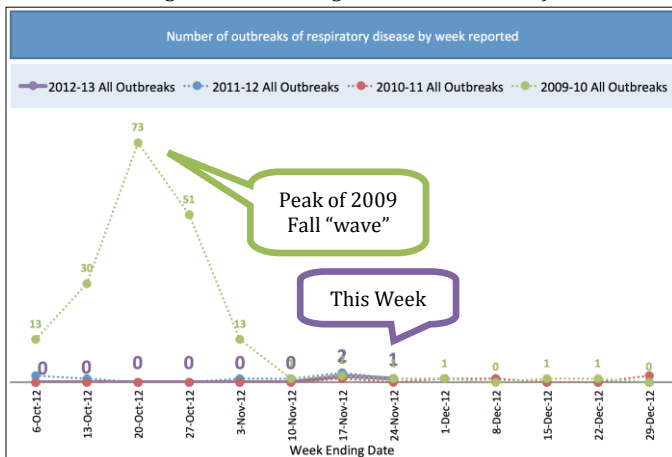
Hospitals in Maryland reported nine influenza-associated hospitalizations. (A person with an overnight hospital stay along with a positive influenza test of any kind, e.g. rapid test or PCR, is considered an "influenza-associated hospitalization" for purposes of influenza surveillance.)



Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations by Age Group	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Age 0-4	4 (44%)	3 (23%)	14 (27%)
Age 5-17	2 (22%)	1 (8%)	8 (15%)
Age 18-24	--	1 (8%)	3 (6%)
Age 25-49	1 (11%)	2 (15%)	9 (17%)
Age 50-64	2 (22%)	3 (23%)	11 (21%)
Age ≥ 65	--	3 (23%)	7 (13%)
Total	9 (100%)	13 (100%)	25 (100%)

Outbreaks of Respiratory Disease

One outbreak of pneumonia was reported to DHMH. (Disease outbreaks of any kind are reportable in Maryland. Respiratory outbreaks may be reclassified once a causative agent is detected, e.g. from ILI to influenza.)



Respiratory Outbreaks by Type	This Week Number (%)	Last Week Number (%)	Season Number (%)
Influenza	--	1 (50%)	1 (33%)
Influenza-like Illness	--	1 (50%)	1 (33%)
Pneumonia	1 (100%)	--	1 (33%)
Other Respiratory	--	--	--
Total	1 (100%)	2 (100%)	3 (100%)

National Influenza Surveillance (CDC)

During the week ending November 24, 2012, influenza activity increased in the U.S.

- **Viral Surveillance:** Of 5,342 specimens tested and reported by U.S. World Health Organization (WHO) and National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) collaborating laboratories during week 47, 812 (15.2%) were positive for influenza.
- **Novel Influenza A Virus:** One human infection with a novel influenza A virus was reported.
- **Pneumonia and Influenza Mortality:** The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was below the epidemic threshold.
- **Influenza-associated Pediatric Deaths:** No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported.
- **Outpatient Illness Surveillance:** The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 2.2%, which is at the national baseline of 2.2%. Five regions reported ILI above region-specific baseline levels. Five states experienced high ILI activity, two states experienced moderate ILI activity; 4 states experienced low ILI activity; New York City and 39 states experienced minimal ILI activity, and the District of Columbia had insufficient data.
- **Geographic Spread of Influenza:** The geographic spread of influenza in 4 states was reported as widespread; 7 states reported regional activity; 19 states reported local activity; the District of Columbia and 18 states reported sporadic activity; Guam and 1 state reported no influenza activity, and Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and 1 state did not report.

